

[DESCRIPTION]

Please amend page 1, paragraph 3, to read as follows:

- - **FIELD OF THE INVENTION** - -

[Field of the invention]

The present invention relates generally to [the field of equipment for] packaging and, [with stretch film. M]more [precisely] particularly, [it concerns a new assembly for unrolling and pre-stretching stretch film with an improved system for automatically cutting the film. The invention also relates to a new cutting procedure which is carried out with this assembly.] to systems and methods for wrapping using stretch film or the like.

Please amend page 1, paragraph 4, to read as follows:

- - **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION** - -

[Description of the prior art]

[According to the known art, equipment - be it] Conventional apparatus, whether fixed or mobile [-], for packing goods/products [with] using stretch film often comprises an assembly for unrolling or dispensing the film from a spool and for pre-stretching it. The assembly feeds the film toward[s the load] a bundle to be wrapped, which is generally [carried on] supported by a pallet. The spool is unrolled [by means of] using rubber-covered rollers [that are] controlled by electromagnetic brakes or clutches, or by electronically operated motor reducers. The film then passes over a series of idle

conveyance rollers before it leaves the assembly and arrives at the [load that is] bundle to be wrapped.

Please amend page 3, first full paragraph, to read as follows:

- - OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION - -

[Summary of the invention]

[The basic] Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention [is] to provide a stretch film unrolling and pre-stretching assembly [that is provided with] having an automatic film cutt[ing]er [means that will] in order to avoid the worker having to [interfere with] adjust the assembly or otherwise intervene at the end of the cutting operation [in order] to insure suitable re-positioning of the film for the next wrapping cycle.

Please amend page 4, first full paragraph, to read as follows.

- - BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS - -

[Brief description of the drawings]

A specific, illustrative [The characteristics and advantages of the stretch film unrolling and pre-stretching] assembly and method [with improved system] for automatically unrolling and cutting [the] stretch film [and of the method for use therewith, in accordance with the present invention, [will be brought out more clearly by the following description of a particular embodiment thereof, which is given purely by way of

example and is not to be considered limitative in any way, said description making] is described below with reference to the [attached] accompanying drawings, in which:

Please amend page 4, second full paragraph, to read as follows:

[- figure] FIG. 1 [shows] is a [schematic] perspective view of [the] a cutting device of [the] an assembly for automatically unrolling and cutting stretch film, in accordance with the present invention;

Please amend page 4, third full paragraph, to read as follows:

[- figure] FIG. 2 [shows] is an exploded view of the cutting device [of figure] shown in FIG. 1;

Please amend page 4, fourth full paragraph, to read as follows:

[- figures] FIG. 3a [and 3b show the] is a detail view of a film cutting blade of the device [in greater detail in, respectively, its] shown in FIG. 1 in a cutting or operative position [and its rest position];

Please insert the following new paragraph after the fourth full paragraph on page

4:

- - FIG. 3b is a detail view of the film cutting blade of FIG. 3a in a rest or stowed position; - -

Please amend from after the fourth full paragraph on page 4 to before the first full paragraph on page 5 to read as follows:

[- figure] FIG. 4 is a[nother] perspective view of [a stretch film unrolling and pre-stretching] an assembly for automatically unrolling and cutting stretch film, in accordance with another aspect of the present invention[, equipped with the device of the previous figures];

Please amend page 5, first full paragraph, to read as follows:

[- figure] FIG. 5 [shows] is an alternative perspective view of the assembly [of figure] shown in FIG. 4 [seen from a different angle and - for the sake of clarity -] with its top casing removed; and

Please amend page 5, second full paragraph, to read as follows:

[- figure] FIG. 6 [shows] is a plan view of the assembly [illustrated by figures] shown in FIGS. 4 and 5.

Please add the following new paragraph after the second full paragraph on page 5:

- - The same numerals are used throughout the drawing figures to designate similar elements. Still other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following description of the preferred embodiments. - -

Please amend page 5, third full paragraph, to read as follows:

- - **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS** - -

[Description of a preferred embodiments]

Referring now to the [above figures, and for the moment especially to figures] drawings and, more particularly, to FIGS. 1 - 4 [to 6], [the] there is shown generally a specific, illustrative assembly for automatically unrolling and cutting stretch film, in accordance with the present invention. According to one embodiment, a stretch film unrolling and pre-stretching assembly is provided, in accordance with the invention, as [is] part of a conventional packaging machine [of a known typology that is neither shown here nor described in detail]. Functional and structural aspects of such packaging machines are considered known by those skilled in the art and further description is believed unnecessary for illustration of the present invention. [The assembly itself has an overall structure based on prior art with which any person skilled in the art is familiar and which is not therefore described in detail. As far as]

For purposes of illustrating the present invention [is specifically concerned], [it is sufficient to mention] the machine preferably includes a frame 1, comprising a lower plate 1a and a top casing 1b at a [certain] selected distance from [each] one another, and with rubber-covered rollers 2 [that] extending between them to control [the] forward movement